

The New World Fish Center Headquarters



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update March 2001

Architect's drawing: Conference center, north east view

The World Fish Center Headquarters is being built in Penang, Malaysia. In 1999, after a painstaking search for a new site, the ICLARM Board of Trustees accepted a generous offer from the Malaysian Government for the use of a 5.5 hectare site and the facilities of the former Fisheries Training College at Batu Maung, Penang. With the support of local and international donors, the headquarters will provide the necessary facilities to conduct strategic research to help scientists, policy makers and aquatic resource managers in their work. The Headquarters serves as the main hub of scientific research activities. Aside from its main coordinating function, it serves as:

- A unique, world-class scientific research facility in the aquatic sciences based in Asia
- A venue for training national and local scientists, policy and law makers, and students in various aspects of aquatic science
- A specialized information and knowledge repository on fisheries
- A venue for germinating ideas, discussions, dialogue and fora
- A place for the public to learn and be made aware of the state of fisheries and aquatic resources and their role in their conservation and sustainable management



When completed, the headquarters will feature the following:

Research Offices in May 2001

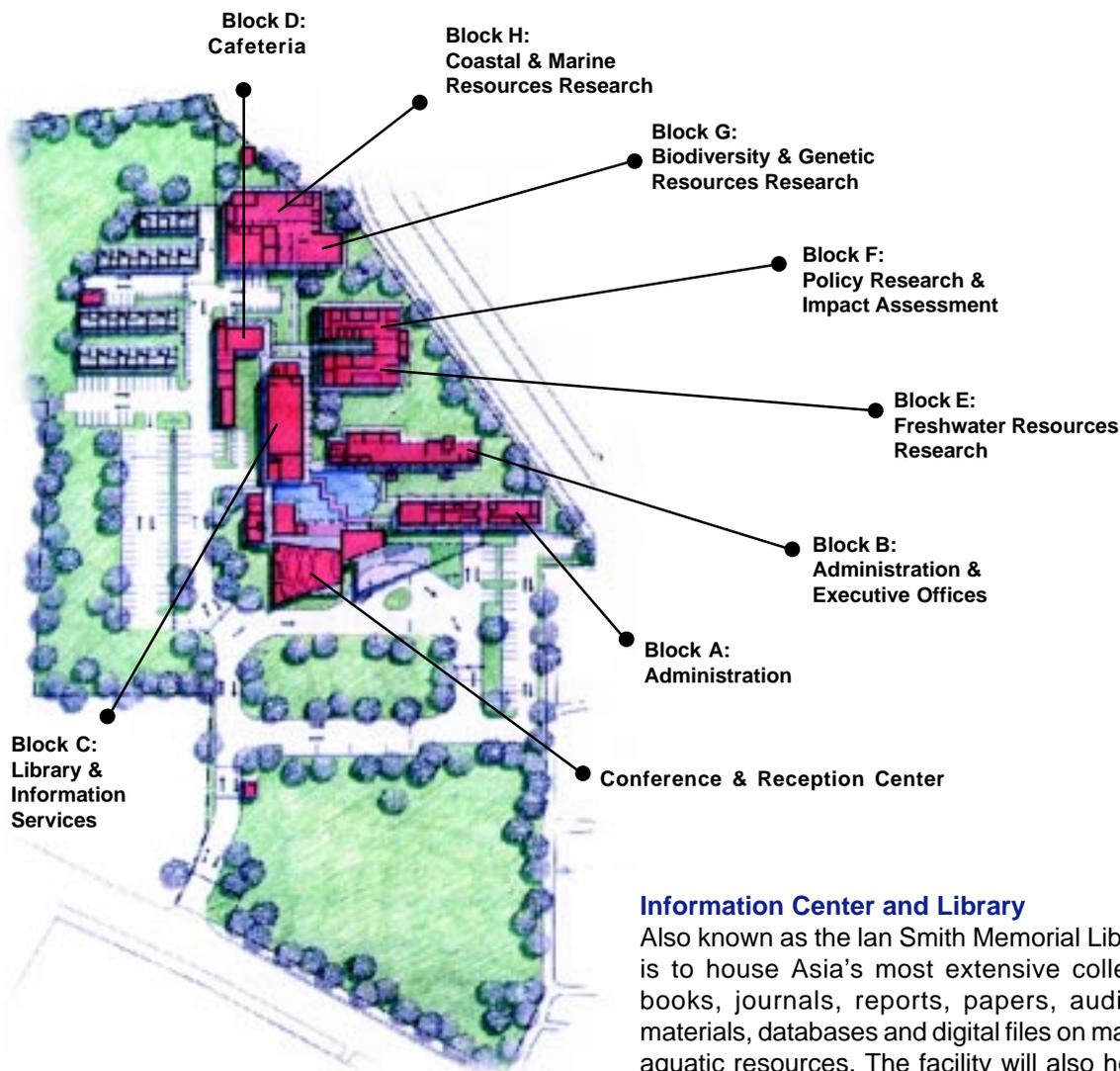
Buildings and office spaces for scientific research purposes will be established for the following research programs: Coastal and Marine Resources Research; Biodiversity and Genetic Resources Research; Freshwater Resources Research; Policy Research and Impact Assessment; and Partnership, Information and Training.

Research Laboratories

In addition to the research offices, a wet laboratory, a genetics research laboratory and a social science laboratory will be put up at the site.

ICLARM - The World Fish Center

Plan of the new Headquarters



Information Center and Library

Also known as the Ian Smith Memorial Library, this is to house Asia's most extensive collection of books, journals, reports, papers, audio-visual materials, databases and digital files on marine and aquatic resources. The facility will also house the publications and communications unit of ICLARM.

Conference Center

The Conference Center houses a conference hall and a public reception and exhibit area. The conference hall will seat 150 persons and will be equipped with modern conference and telecommunications technology. This will primarily be used as venue for discussions and debate among scientists, local and regional partners, visiting scientists, guest lecturers and policy makers. The Conference Hall will also host occasional fora for students and the general public to create awareness on various issues affecting marine and aquatic resources locally and worldwide.

Public Exhibits and Demonstration Area

An area within the Conference Block will be for permanent and periodic exhibits for the public and ICLARM guests. Exhibits will be along different themes pertaining to aquatic resources conservation and management, and the world of aquatic science.

Administration and Staff Offices

Space will be provided for ICLARM's administration and corporate support services. These are essential facilities in providing logistical and administrative support for ICLARM's research programs.